

REMARKSI. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated April 28, 2005, please consider the following remarks. Claims 1-13 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. The Cited Reference and the Subject Invention

A. The Huotari et al. Reference

U.S. Publication No. 2002/0004935, published January 10, 2002 to Allen Joseph Huotari et al. discloses a system for remote automated installation and configuration of digital subscriber line modems. The automated installation and configuration system automatically configures Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) modems and associated user systems without a user having any knowledge of operating or networking systems. The system eliminates the need for a truck roll and makes it possible for a DSL modem to be installed across an ordinary telephone line using a conventional modem. The automated system eliminates the errors that occur during the DSL installation and configuration process, and thus facilitates efficient and cost-effective access to DSL technology. The automated system provides three methods for installing a DSL modem. In the first method, an analog modem connects the subscriber's system to a DSL service provider's server and retrieves a configuration file. The automated system then uses the configuration file to configure the subscriber's DSL modem. In the second method, the configuration file is located on a disk or CD-ROM. The automated system retrieves the configuration file from the disk or CD-ROM, and then uses the configuration file to configure the subscriber's DSL modem. In the third method, the automated system uses the user interface of the subscriber system to prompt the subscriber to enter configuration information. The automated system then uses that entered information to create the configuration file, and then uses the configuration file to configure the subscriber's DSL modem.

III. Office Action Prior Art Rejections

In paragraph (2) the Office Action rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) as unpatentable over Huotari et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1 recites:

*A computer implemented method for provisioning broadband service in a Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) network, comprising:
transmitting an authentication request from a modem to a single configuration domain name over a PPPoE network; and
receiving authorization from said configuration domain name.*

According to the Office Action:

Huotari et al. disclose claims:

1. A computer implemented method for provisioning broadband service in a Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) network, comprising:
transmitting an authentication request from a modem to a single configuration domain name over a PPPoE network, and receiving authorization from said configuration domain name.
(105; 300; 400; 110; 1000; 1030)

The Elements 105,3000, 4000, 110, 1000, and 1030 refer to system elements, not method steps. In particular,

Element 105 is a user system;

Element 300 is a user data file;

Element 400 is a configuration file;

Element 110 is a server provider system;

Element 1000 is a window for entering TCP/IP information; and

Element 1030 is a field for entering a domain name.

Because the Office Action does not indicate where the Applicants method is disclosed in the Huotari reference, the Applicants do not understand the reasoning behind the rejection.

In any case, upon review, the Applicants conclude that claim 1 is patentable over the Huotari reference.

The Huotari reference discloses a system where a DSL installation program in the user system transmits a user data file 300 to a service provider system 125 (paragraphs [0065], [0068]). A sample user data file is shown in FIG 4 below:

300

USER DATA FILE

Field Description	Field Type	Example
Dialup access server telephone number	Text	1-800-966-8849
Dialup access login name	Text	Johnsmith
Dialup access login password	Text	mypassword
Domain name (if applicable)	Text	infinilink
I.P. Address of web server	Text	192.168.99.46
Complete GET request URL	Text	http://192.168.99.46/login.asp? UserID=Johnsmith&Password=mypassword &submit=submit+form

FIG. 4

The user data file 300 includes the user's login name and password as well as the domain name. If the service provider does not require a password for login, the login password may be omitted (paragraph [0071]).

The service provider 110 then generates a configuration file 400 from the user data file 300 and transmits it to the user system (see FIG. 3). The configuration file includes information such as the PPPoE service name, PPP username and the PPP password.

Huotari, then, teaches transmitting *user information* to the *service provider*, and in return, receiving a configuration file which may specify a PPPoE Service Name. It does not teach transmitting an authentication request *to a single configuration domain name and over a PPPoE network*. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse.

With Respect to Claim 2: Claim 2 recites that the modem includes a configuration domain name associated with a Broadband Service Node. The Huotari reference fails to disclose this feature as well.

With Respect to Claim 3: Claim 3 recites that a PPPoE session is established before transmitting the authentication request. Huotari does not disclose this feature. PPPoE is only disclosed with reference to the configuration file, which is obtained *after* transmission of the user file.

With Respect to Claims 4 and 5: Claim 4 recites the step of requesting only a single identifier from the user of a client computer, while claim 5 recites that the single identifier and a generic password is transmitted. Huotari teaches entering both the username and unique password:

[0097] In the dial-up installation process illustrated in FIG. 6, the DSL installation program 135, through the user interface device 205, *prompts the subscriber to enter the subscriber's dial-up access login name and the subscriber's dial-up access login password*. The DSL installation program 135 advantageously contains the dial-up access server telephone number, the domain name, the IP address of the web server, and the complete GET request URL. Using the foregoing data and the dial-up access login name and dial-up access login password entered by the subscriber 120, the DSL installation program 135 composes the user data file 300. The DSL installation program 135 then connects to the service provider system 110 with the configured modem 220. Once connected to the service provider system 110, the DSL installation program sends the user data file 300 to the service provider system 110. The service provider system 110, as illustrated in FIG. 3, receives the user data file 300 and returns the configuration file 400 to the user system 105. The DSL installation program 135 retrieves the configuration file 400 using the configured modem 220.

and teaches that the if a password is required, the user must enter it. It does not teach the notion of a generic password:

[0071] Although the user data file 300 is disclosed with reference to the foregoing embodiments, the invention is not intended to be limited thereby. Rather, a skilled artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein a wide number of alternative embodiments of the user data file 300 including almost any data structure capable of containing the information required to identify the user system 105 to the service provider system 110. For example, the user data file 300 in one embodiment may not include a dial-up access login password if, for example, the service provider system 110 does not require a password from the user system 105 to establish a connection. As another example, the user data file 300 in one embodiment may comprise an Extensible Markup Language (XML) file.

With Respect to Claims 6 and 7: Claim 6 recites the reception of a temporary dynamic IP address that is used to transmit a configuration request to the ISP. The Office Action indicates that this is disclosed by elements 105, 300, 400, 110, 1000, and 1030 of the Huotari reference and in paragraph [0082] as follows:

[0082] The Local IP is the user system's currently assigned Internet Protocol (IP) address. This value is required unless assigned by Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol or the Point-to-Point Protocol. The IP address provides a unique identifier of the user system as a network node or client on the Internet. The assignment of the IP address is administered by the ISP and is assigned statically (a fixed value) or dynamically (assigned on a connection by connection basis from a finite set of values). An IP address must be provided either statically or dynamically in order for the user system to participate on the network.

However, this paragraph refers to a received *configuration file* that has been returned to the user equipment. Claim 7 recites the step of *transmitting a request* for a configuration file to an ISP at a dynamic IP address that was received in response to a request transmitted over a PPPoE network. Huotari does not even remotely disclose this technique.

With Respect to Claims 8 and 13: Claim 8 recites:

A system for provisioning broadband service in a Point-to-Point Protocol Over Ethernet (PPPoE) network, comprising:
at least one client computer;
a modem coupled to said client computer, said modem including a memory comprising:
instructions for transmitting an authentication request from a modem to a single configuration domain name over a PPPoE network; and
instructions for receiving authorization from said configuration domain name;
a single configuration Broadband Service Node (BSN) coupled to said modem, where said single configuration domain name is associated with said single configuration BSN; and
an authentication server coupled to said single configuration BSN.

As described above, the Huotari reference fails to disclose instructions for transmitting an authentication request from a modem to a single configuration domain name over a PPPoE network. Huotari also fails to disclose a single configuration BSN and an authentication server coupled to the single configuration BSN.

Claim 13 is patentable for analogous reasons.

With Respect to Claim 10: Claim 10 recites multiple BSNs coupled to the modem, each with a different domain name. According to the Office Action, this feature is disclosed as follows:

[0101] FIG. 15 illustrates a block diagram of the modem specific installation program 235 configuring the DSL Physical Layer, the ATM VPI/VCI parameters, and the TCP/IP parameters on the user system 105 and the DSL modem 130. The function of the DSL Physical Layer is to identify the method used for establishing physical communications between the CPE and the Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAM). The function of the ATM VPI/VCI is to identify the ATM Virtual Circuit implemented. TCP/IP is a network protocol used by many network systems. The illustration is meant to demonstrate, as an example, the manner in which the modem specific installation program 235 configures the DSL Physical Layer, the ATM VPI/VCI settings, and the TCP/IP settings, which are only portions of the configuration process. Appendix A illustrates the complete list of the configuration parameters, and the configuration parameters' function, purpose, and configuration location.

The Applicants respectfully disagree. The foregoing discloses a modem, not a system of multiple BSNs coupled to a modem, each with a different domain name.

With Respect to Claim 12: Claim 12 recites a generic password. According to the Office Action, this is discussed as follows

[0073] FIG. 5 illustrates a data structure diagram of the configuration file 400 according to aspects of an embodiment of the invention. The configuration file 400 contains a plurality of data fields. FIG. 5 also illustrates a description of the data fields, the data type of the data fields, and comments regarding the data fields. In one embodiment of the invention, the configuration file 400 includes the following fields: Vendor ID, ISP, LEC, HeadEnd, Protocol, PVC count, VPIin, VCIin, Local IP, Subnet Mask, DNS Servers, Host Name,

Domain, Gateway, PPP Username, PPP Password, PPPoE Service Name, [ERROR], Bad_Pass, Error_Msg, [END], and Valid. The descriptions, data field types, and comments describing the foregoing fields are also illustrated in FIG. 5. An explanation of the data fields, and their utility in the installation and configuration process is described as follows.

However, although the foregoing discloses a password, it does not disclose the notion of a generic password at all.

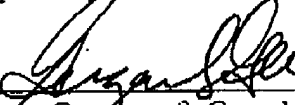
IV. Dependent Claims

Dependent claims 2-7 and 9-12 incorporate the limitations of their related independent claims, and are therefore patentable on this basis. In addition, these claims recite novel elements even more remote from the cited references. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be allowed as well.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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